

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A method for recording an image on a thermosensitive image bearing medium that contains liquid crystal material exhibiting a cholesteric phase at a temperature range higher than a room temperature, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) heating the liquid crystal material contained in a first region of the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a first temperature for a first time period by applying a first energy, thereby causing the first region to change from a base color to a first color; and

(b) heating the liquid crystal material contained in a second region of the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a second temperature for a second time period by applying a second energy, thereby causing the second region to change to a second color, the second color being different from the first color, the first temperature being higher than the second temperature and the first time period being shorter than the second time period,

~~A method as claimed in claim 1,~~ wherein the step (a) is executed simultaneously with the step (b).

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method for recording an image on a thermosensitive image bearing medium that contains liquid crystal material exhibiting a cholesteric phase at a temperature range higher than a room temperature, said method

comprising the steps of:

(a) heating the liquid crystal material contained in a first region of the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a first temperature for a first time period by applying a first energy, thereby causing the first region to change from a base color to a first color; and

(b) heating the liquid crystal material contained in a second region of the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a second temperature for a second time period by applying a second energy, thereby causing the second region to change to a second color, the second color being different from the first color, the first temperature being higher than the second temperature and the first time period being shorter than the second time period,

wherein the steps (a) and (b) are executed in any order and A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first color is represented by light of a first wavelength and the second color is represented by light of a second wavelength that is longer than the first wavelength.

7-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) A method for recording an image on a thermosensitive image bearing medium that contains liquid crystal material exhibiting a cholesteric phase at a temperature range higher than a room temperature, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) heating the liquid crystal material contained in the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a first temperature for a first time period by applying a first energy; and

(b) heating the liquid crystal material contained in the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a second temperature for a second time period by applying a second energy the first temperature being higher than the second temperature and the first time period being shorter than the second time period,

wherein the step (a) is executed simultaneously with the step (b).

22. (Previously Presented) A method for recording an image on a thermosensitive image bearing medium that contains liquid crystal material exhibiting a cholesteric phase at a temperature range higher than a room temperature, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) heating the liquid crystal material contained in the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a first temperature for a first time period by applying a first energy; and

(b) heating the liquid crystal material contained in the thermosensitive image bearing medium at a second temperature for a second time period by applying a second energy the first temperature being higher than the second temperature and the first time period being shorter than the second time period,

(c) generating first and second signals based on image data, the first and second signals being respectively for reproducing a first color and a second color, the first and second color being different from each other and the first color being represented by light of a first wavelength and the second color being represented by light of a second wavelength that is longer than the first wavelength.

wherein the applications of the first and second energies are respectively executed by driving a writing head based on the first and second signals,

and wherein the steps (a) and (b) are executed in any order.